

Forum: Forum on Inequalities

Thematic: How to reduce inequalities on different scales?

Name of the Citizen: Suresh Yadav

Marital status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="radio"/> Married/in a relationship<input type="radio"/> Single<input checked="" type="radio"/> With children, if so, how many: 2	Level of education <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input checked="" type="radio"/> Primary<input type="radio"/> Secondary<input type="radio"/> University
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1. How does the theme of inequalities concern you?

I am 39 and a mother to 2 wonderful kids, a daughter and a son, for whom I wish the best. Sadly, in the world I know, inequality is not something we learn about in class: it is something we live every day. I see inequality every day, not just in what people have, but in what we are allowed to hope for.

I come from a low-income background just like most in our region and did not have the opportunity to go to school. Most of the people in our community lack educational knowledge, the men will have minimal knowledge of geography and mathematics as well as agricultural knowledge while us women, too busy with taking care of our homes since an early age will not know more than cooking recipes and how to raise kids. As a result, I cannot read or write, which makes it difficult to access help services, apply for jobs outside of the village, or advocate for myself effectively in official settings.

Educational inequality continues to affect the next generation. I have two children, and while I send them to village school it is not that that will save them from this dreadful thing that is their fate. But how can we have the luxury of hoping for a thing such as hopes for the future when we do not even know if we will live till tomorrow. Even the smart ones of our village will not ever get a degree. We do not have the luxury of paying for extra education. In our condition we cannot afford to be greedy...

Government programs are not always accessible. People in my situation are supposed to be helped by programs like the Public Distribution System (PDS) and MGNREGA, but full access is hindered by delays, corruption, or unclear information. Phone numbers, OTPs, and biometric verification are frequently needed for digital systems like Aadhaar, which many people in my community are unable to do on their

own or with support. Which is why I am working, researching, and trying to figure out how we – my community, my family – can get out of this.

2. What do you suggest at your level?

There are multiple things I can do to minimize the impacts of inequalities in my community, despite possessing limited money and no college diploma.

Sharing More Information Regarding Government Programs: I share knowledge about benefits, including health care under the Janani Suraksha Yojana (safe motherhood program), guaranteed employment through MGNREGA, and food assistance through the PDS. Many of the village' woman are unaware of these services' existence or do not know how to use them. Even if they knew about those services, access would still be difficult because of the lack of internet or electric devices that would permit us to go on websites. Providing Forms and Procedures to Neighbors: Despite my low level of education, I have worked out how to use various government services and can help others with things like applying for a job card, linking Aadhaar, or checking their names on ration lists.

Although I cannot change government policy, I can help ensure that existing policies reach the people they were meant to serve. Through small, consistent actions, I believe that it is possible to reduce the impact of inequality in my community and create better chances for the next generation.